

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-11 DRC-01 OPIC-12 AGR-20

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /067 W

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R 201330Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5011

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, GH

SUBJ: DREVICI INVOLVEMENT WITH HOLIDAY INNS PROJECT - GHANA

REFS: A. STATE 191988 B. ACCRA 1728 C. ACCRA 761

D. ACCRA 2968 MAY 14, 1973 E. ACCRA 2929 MAY 11, 1973

ALL NOTAL

1. WILLIAM LEA, DIRECTOR, FRANCHISE SALES, HOLIDAY INNS, WHO VISITED ACCRA SEPT 10-13, UNABLE TO MEET WITH EMBASSY OFFICER. LEFT MESSAGE SEPT 13 NOTING "TALKED WITH GEORGE HADLEY ASSOCIATES AND DR. DREVICI IN MEMPHIS AND AM NEGOTIATING WITH DREVICI. LOOKING FOR HOTEL SITE IN GHANA." LEA ALSO STATED WAS SETTING UP REGIONAL OFFICE IN NAIROBI IN FEW MONTHS BUT DID NOT COMMENT ON SUCCESS OF GHANA VISIT.

2. NOE DREVICI'S EXPLOITS WELL KNOWN IN GHANA. SUPER SALESMAN ABLE TO SELL NKRUMAH GOVERNMENT ON NUMBER OF PROJECTS WHICH HE UNABLE TO COMPLETE AND WHICH
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ALLEGEDLY TAINTED WITH CORRUPTION. FALLING INTO

DISREPUTE AFTER 1966 COUP, ENTREPRENEUR SEEMS TO HAVE PARTIALLY REHABILITATED POSITION IN GHANA. MATTERS RELATING TO RECENT DREVICI ACTIVITIES REPORTED IN REFTELS INCLUDING BANK OF GHANA'S APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS TO LOCAL CREDITORS FROM FROZEN ACCOUNTS (REF C), EMBASSY'S CONCERN OVER APPARENT RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF POSITION IN GHANA (REF D), AND INDICATIONS GOG MIGHT BE WILLING TO DEAL WITH HIM ON A COCOA PROJECT THROUGH THIRD PARTY (REF E).

3. GHANA TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COMPANY OFFICIAL CONFIRMED GOG AWARE DREVICI INVOLVEMENT WITH HOLIDAY INNS PROJECT, BUT NOT SURE WITH WHOM LEA TALKED DURING VISIT.
HANSON

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NNN

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